United Nations E/CN.3/2018/19

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
21 December 2017

Original: English

Statistical Commission
Forty-ninth session
6–9 March 2018
Item 3 (p) of the provisional agenda*
Items for discussion and decision: ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

Report of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2017/228 and past practices, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the report of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data. As the proportion of the world's population in the older ages continues to increase, the need for improved information and analysis of population ageing becomes pressing. Furthermore, implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the pledge to leave no one behind require timely and reliable data across all ages. The report provides an overview of challenges with respect to data on older populations and includes a proposal to form a new city group, the Titchfield group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data, to address issues of conceptualization, methodology and instruments in the domains of ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data. The Titchfield Group would contribute to and build upon international standards and methods for the compilation of ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data, by reviewing and extending existing advances and by enlisting expertise from various countries as well as the international, academic and non-profit sectors concerned with ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data. Harnessing private sector expertise in relation to innovative approaches, including big data, in the use and presentation of ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data will also be important. The Statistical Commission is invited to express its views on the proposal to establish the group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data and its proposed terms of reference.

* E/CN.3/2018/1.

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Report of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

I. Introduction

1. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, sets out a universal plan of action to achieve sustainable development in its social, economic and environmental dimensions in an integrated manner. It seeks to realize the human rights of all people at all ages. It pledges to leave no one behind and "to reach the furthest behind first". This demands addressing the specific rights and needs of all people, including overlooked population groups such as older women and men, and vulnerable subgroups of the older population.

2. As the proportion of the world's population in the older ages continues to increase, the need for improved information and analysis of population ageing becomes pressing. To achieve effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and fulfil the pledge to leave no one behind, data are required across all ages and across the full range of sustainable development targets. Preparing for an ageing population is integral to the achievement of the integrated 2030 Agenda, with a particular emphasis on Sustainable Development Goals related to poverty eradication, good health, gender equality, decent work, reduced inequalities, sustainable cities and peaceful and inclusive societies. Population ageing, which is a major global trend that affects all regions, reflects one of the major achievements of human development, resulting in part from better living conditions, improved health, greater longevity and lower mortality (Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, 2007; United Nations, 2017).

3. It is widely recognized that the contribution and participation of all people is essential for sustainable development. This is as true for older persons as it is for members of other age groups. Many older women and men are already making significant contributions in all aspects of life, including in formal and informal employment, and at the family and community level through unpaid work and through their participation in decision-making processes. Others are unable to contribute or face significant barriers to enjoying their right to participate, including ageist attitudes which restrict older people's autonomy and their ability to participate in different areas of individual, family and community life. Improvements in statistical systems will provide a more nuanced understanding of diverse forms of participation and older people's current and potential contribution to their families, communities and societies.

4. The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing[2] and the Political Declaration,[3] adopted by the international community at the Second World Assembly on Ageing in April 2002, recognize for the first time in history that "ageing has profound consequences for every aspect of individual, community, national and international life". The Madrid Plan of Action in particular stresses the importance of research, data collection and analysis in supporting policy and programme development as a key priority for national Governments and international assistance. Section III of the Plan of Action on implementation and follow-up draws attention to the need to advance research, particularly in developing countries, on age- and

[1] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[2] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Ibid., annex I.

gender-sensitive data collection and analysis in order to provide essential evidence for effective policies. Following the adoption of the Plan of Action, the General Assembly, at successive sessions, has called for the international community and the United Nations system to "support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing" (see, e.g., Assembly resolution 69/146, para. 38).

5. In its resolution WHA69.3, in which the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly adopted the global strategy and action plan on ageing and health, the Assembly specifically requested the Director-General "to provide technical support to Member States to strengthen systems to collect, analyse, use and interpret data on healthy ageing over time" (para. 4 (1)) and "to support research and innovation to foster healthy ageing" (para. 4 (8)). Enhanced measurement, monitoring and research for healthy ageing is strongly called for in strategic objective 5 of the Strategy.

6. Further, in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[4] adopted by the Conference in Cairo on 13 September 1994, and its related review processes, there is a call for the United Nations system to address existing data gaps, including those related to population ageing and the situation of older persons, as well as to support countries upon request in addressing population ageing at the national level.

7. The facts speak for themselves: According to the latest population estimates and projections (Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, 2017), there are currently 962 million people aged 60 or over, comprising 13 per cent of the global population. While Asia has the world's largest number of people aged 60 or over (549 million), Europe has the largest proportion of its population in this age group (25 per cent). Population ageing is known to arise from two demographic effects: increasing longevity and declining fertility. As public-health gains advance in most countries, global life expectancy will continue to increase, contributing to a rise in the number of older persons. In countries with low or falling fertility rates, the proportion of older persons will also grow rapidly. The number of people aged 60 or over is projected to reach 1.4 billion in 2030, constituting over 16 per cent of the global population. By 2030, older persons are expected to account for 30 per cent of the population in Europe, 26 per cent in Northern America, 20 per cent in Oceania, 17 per cent in Asia and in Latin America and the Caribbean and 6 per cent in Africa.

8. While the international community has acknowledged these global demographic shifts, little has been done to facilitate a recognition of the fact that older women and men belong to as diverse an age group as any other. They should not, therefore, be lumped together as members of the 60+ age group, assuming uniformity across age and gender and other socioeconomic and demographic characteristics. To better understand the challenges and opportunities confronted by older persons and to assess their economic, social, health and cultural conditions, systematic data analysis, data disaggregation and data-collection approaches and methodologies need to be developed to fill these data and evidence gaps, building on work already completed, including for example, the Recommendations on Ageing-related Statistics (September 2016), prepared by the Task Force on Ageing-related Statistics of the Economic Commission for Europe. It is also critical to improve the understanding of the gender and urban/rural dimensions of the lives of older persons, since social, economic, health and cultural factors affect older women and men in different ways.

9. Coordinated action is needed by national statistical offices in addressing these evidence gaps, and to ensure that age-disaggregated data is available across a range

[4] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

of domains. It important that this be carried out within a conceptual framework that aligns the policy and analytical context so as to ensure that data and analysis are directed towards addressing the policy challenges associated with an ageing population. Without this action, there is a risk that the diversity of experiences of older persons will be overlooked, that particular subgroups of older persons will be invisible in the data and that there will be a disconnect between availability of data, and the ability to conduct meaningful analysis in support of evidence-based policy formulation and decision-making.

II. Challenges for ageing and age-disaggregated data

10. A large number of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators refer to age disaggregation or address age-specific concerns; however, much of the survey data currently available — particularly, but not exclusively, in developing countries — excludes various age groups. Where such data exist, lack of harmonization of age disaggregation together with small sample sizes at older ages means that data are not comparable or adequate for monitoring the Goals. Additionally, a lack of age standardization can be the source of a misleading perspective. In developed countries, a notable challenge is the paucity of data on older people living in institutions. These kinds of issues make it difficult to track the impact of development programmes on the full life cycle. A further challenge is to adequately capture data on the contributions (both economic and non-economic) of older persons, which are often hidden. Age disaggregation, and disaggregation in intersections of age, sex, disability, location and other characteristics, are critical for developing programmes that will help people break free of intergenerational poverty. Without better ageing-related data, the risk increases of compounding inequalities and locking the most vulnerable and marginalized out of development.

11. The related statistical challenges encompass the following:

- Knowledge and availability of data
- Lack of knowledge of existing data on older persons: for example, existing data on older people may be collected, but may not be analysed or published, or made openly accessible, particularly in cases where they are held across a range of agencies
- Currently, much of the available survey data exclude various age groups; and available data are not disaggregated by age in higher age groups, of if they are, this is not done consistently
- Lack of consistent data across all ages relating to specific topics of interest in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals indicators
- Data reporting in the area of intersections of age, gender, disability, location and other relevant dimensions of inequality is insufficient, particularly for older ages
- Progress in the area of gender and disability statistics in recent years has not resulted in greater availability of data on ageing. Data are not collected in a standardized and systematic way on key topics such as economic independence, violence, abuse and neglect of older people, dementia, prevalence of HIV/AIDS and caregiving. This is particularly true for developing countries but is true as well for many developed countries and countries in transition
- Lack of consistent and comparable survey data

- Many household surveys do not cover older age groups, such as Demographic and Health Surveys and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys which include only individuals up to age 49 (women) and age 52 (men), as the survey mandate is for a specific younger subgroup of the population. In other surveys, such as Labour Force Surveys, the disaggregation of indicators in a number of countries is capped at age 65 or over

- The surveys conducted under the World Bank Living Standards Measurement Study are potentially rich data sources, as they collect data on health, demographics and economic activities of older people. However, those surveys are not utilized to their full potential for the analysis of living standards of older populations. The questionnaires used under the Living Standards Measurement Study are also less standardized than Demographic and Health Survey questionnaires, which makes international comparisons more challenging

- Standards and methodologies for collecting the missing information directly from older persons through household survey instruments do not exist, for example, with respect to consistency among available age groups across sources both within and across countries

- There are a number of specialized ageing surveys and longitudinal studies on ageing administered in different countries, for example, Mexico's Health and Ageing Study, Brazil's Longitudinal Study of Health Ageing and Well-Being, China's Health, Ageing and Retirement Longitudinal Survey, India's Longitudinal Ageing Study and Indonesia's Family Life Survey. These are important sources of the information needed to understand ageing processes and the life course. More countries should be encouraged to develop and administer these specialized types of studies and should be provided with support in this regard

- Older people living outside of traditional households (e.g., the institutionalized and the homeless) are rarely captured by data systems, with censuses often the only source of information on these groups

- Availability, coverage and utilization of administrative and civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) data are limited in many countries

- The routine health information derived from health systems such as health centres and hospitals are poorly utilized and not well integrated in the national statistics system, in spite of the potential breadth and depth of that information with regard to the health of older persons

- The coverage of death registration, including information on causes of death, while robust in some countries, is not universal

- There may be coverage and definitional issues associated with administrative data; for example, coverage of older people living outside of traditional households may be limited

- Challenges associated with combining multiple sources of data

- Legal and administrative challenges to accessing different sources of data (e.g., administrative data, big data and private sector data)

- Technical difficulties, including lack of unique identifiers, which are confronted in attempts to combine different sources.

12. These challenges signify that while the Sustainable Development Goals do refer to older people and call for disaggregation of data by age, sex, disability and other relevant indicators of inequality, there is a risk that if we rely on current data, we may reach 2030 and still not fully understand the lives lived by older people, for example,

how many older people are in poverty, how many older men and women are victims of elder abuse, how many care for others and how many are in work. A concerted effort by national statistical offices and the international community is required for the development and sharing of the tools needed to support the collection, analysis and reporting of data on ageing.

13. The availability of data and statistics on older persons will allow countries to more accurately monitor the situation of older persons during the implementation phase of the 2030 Agenda and other global and regional action plans. This empirical evidence will also support Governments as well as bilateral and multilateral development partners in identifying key strategic interventions and development support programmes and related activities. States have an obligation to uphold human rights to non-discrimination and equality. Production of disaggregated data (e.g., by age, sex, disability and location) constitutes part of the commitment to human rights.

III. Proposal

14. To address these challenges in a more formal and systematic way, a broad range of interested stakeholders have come together to mobilize, partner and coordinate efforts towards standardizing approaches to improving the availability of ageing-related statistics and age disaggregation of data.

15. In May 2016, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) hosted a high-profile international conference bringing together partners from civil society, Governments and multilateral organizations, which resulted in the development of the DFID Data Disaggregation Action Plan: Better Data for Better Lives.[7] The DFID Action Plan aims at harnessing the strong support from partner Governments, civil society and multilateral organizations in the international development community to expand the existing statistical architecture for data disaggregation. Achieving full disaggregation across all social groups, as outlined in the global Sustainable Development Goals, will be a complex and long-term undertaking. One key recommendation outlined in the plan entails formalizing the shared momentum generated by the May 2016 conference through the establishment of a city group (which would submit reports to the Statistical Commission) on age disaggregation and ageing-related data, whose aim would be to document, share and, where necessary, develop tools, methods and standards designed to support age disaggregation and ageing-related data.

16. On the margins of the United Nations World Data Forum in January 2017, a group of stakeholders encompassing representatives of national statistical offices convened at an offsite meeting where, acknowledging the importance of the issues of ageing in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, they agreed on the need for a formal mechanism connecting countries through which they could learn from each other and collaborate on standardized approaches to disaggregating data on the dimensions of ageing and filling ageing-related data gaps.

17. At the forty-eighth session of the Statistical Commission, in March 2017, the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom presented a proposal for the establishment of the Titchfield city group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data, for adoption at the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

18. A side event, convened in the framework of the forty-eighth session of the Statistical Commission and led by the Office for National Statistics, was attended by about 50 participants, including representatives of 19 national statistical offices, who

[7] See https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/582315/Data-disaggregation-action-plan-Jan-2017.pdf

had showed strong interest in the establishment of the proposed city group. The side event was informed by the establishment of draft terms of reference for the proposed city group, as prepared by an informal group of stakeholders[6] in consultation with interested national statistical offices. Participants discussed potential focus areas for the proposed city group and called for it to contribute to the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, particularly in the area of data disaggregation and interlinkages, and to help develop an understanding of the impact of demographic trends on the attainment of the Goals. They noted the important contributions of civil society, academia and other stakeholders.

19. A technical seminar on the proposed city group, held in Winchester, United Kingdom, from 22 to 24 August 2017, was attended by more than 50 representatives of national statistical offices,[7] the United Nations system, other international organizations, civil society organizations and academia. Participants at the meeting shared knowledge and experience related to the core issues of age-disaggregated data and ageing-related statistics, and sought to advance consensus on the objectives, organization, activities, expected deliverables and timeline for the proposed city group.

20. Ahead of the technical workshop, invitations were extended to many national statistical offices, including those that had shown interest and/or attended the side events at the World Data Forum in January 2017 and the forty-eighth session of the Statistical Commission in March 2017. Following the workshop, the informal group reached out to all interested national statistical offices. As a result, a number of additional national statistical offices joined the group and became involved in the development of the present report.

21. The proposed city group should ensure that any proposed development of statistics related to ageing or age-disaggregation is relevant to those policy priorities to which greater data availability and improved statistics can make a core contribution. Following the extensive consultations of national statistical offices and other interested stakeholders, the following policy-focused statistical priorities and challenges were identified as relevant:

- Data to enable sustainable development strategies that empower older persons
- Statistics that capture linkages between multiple dimensions of the lives of older persons as consistent with their needs, preferences and rights
- Data that reflect the diversity and inequality among older persons and the contexts in which they live
- Communication of the challenges and opportunities associated with ageing as reflected in the information available to key stakeholders and society
- Information that helps demonstrate the participation and engagement of older persons in the economy and society and sustainable development for all.

22. In order to address these priorities, there is a need to develop a conceptual framework for ageing-related statistics which can help inform policy formulation and decision-making. There is also a need to extend the data available on the situation and

[6] This informal support group has been established based on the initiative of the Department for International Development (DFID), Statistics UK and HelpAge International and is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.

[7] The national statistical offices of Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, China, Denmark, Hungary, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

experiences of older persons, to disaggregate data by age to allow effective analysis of the life course and to make data about older persons available to support analysis of the diversity of their experience and ensure that subgroups do not become invisible.

23. The new Titchfield city group on ageing-related statistics (Titchfield Group), will address issues of conceptualization, methodology and instruments in the domains of ageing and age-disaggregated statistics. The Titchfield Group would contribute to and build upon international standards and methods for the compilation of ageing and age-disaggregated statistics, by reviewing and extending existing advances and by enlisting expertise from various countries as well as the international, academic and non-profit sectors concerned with ageing-related data. Harnessing expertise in relation to innovative approaches in the use and presentation of data, including big data, will also be important. The Statistical Commission agreed at its forty-fifth session to create the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics to enable the further investigation of the benefits and challenges of big data, including the potential for monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals. It will be important to ensure that the Global Working Group includes the issue of ageing in its agenda. There are also private sector organizations that specialize in the use and analysis of big data to support the work of government and civil society whose expertise can be drawn upon.

24. The Titchfield Group would explore data and statistics within the critical domains where they relate to ageing and age disaggregation. These could include economic empowerment and income security, literacy and lifelong education, health and long-term care, violence, gender equality, social inclusion, participation and living arrangements for older persons. Coverage will be agreed when the group is formed, taking into account the recommendations of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (2002), and more recent strategies endorsed by Member States, such as the Economic Commission for Europe Recommendations on Ageing-related Statistics, 2016 and the WHO global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020, as well as the requirements of the 2030 Agenda.

25. Additionally, given the broad remit of the Statistical Commission and its city groups, the Titchfield Group would collaborate with the United Nations and other organizations concerned with specific aspects of ageing-related statistics, such as health, disability, governance, human rights and gender. The Titchfield Group will also aim to link up with the important work associated with the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme.

IV. Objectives

26. The overall objective of the proposed Titchfield Group is to develop standardized tools and methods for producing both data disaggregated by age and ageing-related data, and to encourage countries to do so, by playing a leading role in the development and communication of new standards and methodologies. Existing issues and deficits in data on ageing will be addressed. More specifically, the Group will aim towards:

- Producing and facilitating assessments at global, regional and national levels of the most important ageing policy imperatives and their statistical requirements, including existing and new data sources and the statistical measurement gaps
- Promoting a common understanding of the core concept of ageing through development of a conceptual framework for ageing-related statistics

- Producing guidelines and case studies on age-related statistics, harmonized standards, and standardized methods for collection, processing and analysis of ageing-related data
- Identifying and promoting good practice for sharing, quality assessment and use of administrative and civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) data related to ageing
- Contributing to the review and analysis of the implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals from the perspective of age-related measures within the framework and time frame set by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators.

27. Ultimately, through greater availability and knowledge of ageing-related data and statistics, the Titchfield Group will seek to contribute to the following development outcomes:

- Improved and harmonized statistical measurement and dissemination of information on the life course, enabling evidence-based policymaking in relation to ageing
- Greater awareness among policymakers and development practitioners of the importance of the ageing agenda, and the pledge in the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and to reach the furthest behind first
- Greater availability of tools and guidelines to increase capacity and facilitate understanding and action on ageing issues.

V. Activities

28. In order to meet the objectives set out above, the Titchfield Group will focus its efforts on the documentation of good practice and the development of standardized recommendations and approaches to supporting age-disaggregation across the life course and producing ageing-related statistics for national statistical offices. This will cover the conceptualization, measurement methodology and dissemination of ageing-related data. In the course of its efforts, the Titchfield Group will draw on the various manuals and guidelines addressing specific aspects of the statistical monitoring of age and ageing developed by various stakeholders, including members of the Group.

29. Should the proposal for a Titchfield Group be adopted, a formal workplan will be developed and a proposal thereon will be put forth at the fiftieth session of the Statistical Commission in 2019. It is anticipated that the workplan would include the following activities:

- Development of a conceptual and analytical framework for ageing-related statistics through a life course approach (including a "think piece" on autonomy, participation and contribution of older people)
- Development of a mechanism/tool for baseline assessment/inventory and country pilots, covering existing and new data sources, capacity assessment of producers and users, policy imperatives, statistical requirements, statistical measurement gaps and identification of stakeholders (users) of ageing-related data
- Identification of situations where age caps exist and advocate, where possible, for their removal, including cost benefit analysis of removing age caps
- Development of a platform for sharing information

- Preparing and promoting with national statistical offices a set of guidelines, covering good practice case studies, guidelines in different settings, methodology for measuring the life course (sampling and non-sampling errors), model questions, editing and imputation techniques, production of prospective statistics on ageing, linking data sets, small-area estimation, awareness of legislative and policy frameworks, accessibility of data, analysis (particularly through a life course approach), dissemination of good practice compendiums, qualitative techniques for enhancing quantitative analysis, and harmonization of standards and definitions related to age

- Sustainable Development Goal framework assessment, contributing to the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators on data disaggregation and ageing-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators

- Horizon scanning, including working with data users to identify trends in society and upcoming issues that will impact on ageing-related statistics.

30. The workplan would set out a timetable for these activities so that the benefits can be realized throughout the life of the Titchfield Group.

VI. Method of operations

31. The Chair of the Titchfield Group will be assumed by the United Kingdom Office for National Statistics. Secretariat services for the Group will be provided by the Office, including the development of a communications strategy and a resource mobilization strategy. A steering committee, incorporating the Office for National Statistics, other national statistical offices that are members of the Titchfield Group, and representatives of multilateral organizations, civil society and academia, will provide strategic direction. The steering committee will operate in a spirit of equal partnership among the members and will remain open so as to welcome additional members from other national statistical offices.

32. The Titchfield Group will carry out its work through holding face-to-face meetings, with technical sessions (once a year); through task team meetings and electronic discussion forums on specific themes, with designated membership from national statistical offices and other participants in the Group, including civil society; through commissioned documents; and through representation and information-sharing at age and ageing-related conferences and proceedings. National statistical offices may assist the Chair by taking leadership roles in task teams set up to address specific issues and deliverables.

33. It is proposed that the first meeting of the Titchfield Group be held in the first half of 2018. It is also proposed that the Group operate for a five-year period, from 2018 to 2023, after which time a review would be carried out to assess whether the Group was still needed.

34. The group will report to the Statistical Commission at its sessions in 2019, 2021 and 2023. It is anticipated that deliverables will be staggered throughout the lifetime of the Titchfield Group.

35. This model aims to build on the successful practices employed by existing city groups.

VII. Points for discussion

36. **The Commission is invited to express its views regarding the proposal to establish a Titchfield Group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data and its proposed terms of reference (see annex).**

Annex

Proposed terms of reference for the Titchfield Group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

A1. The proposed Titchfield Group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data (the Titchfield Group), to be formally established by the Statistical Commission at its forty-ninth session, in March 2018, has as its aim to contribute to establishing international standards and methods for the compilation of statistics and data on the major dimensions of ageing and age-disaggregated data across the life cycle, and to collaborate with United Nations bodies and other organizations concerned with specific aspects of ageing and age statistics.

A2. The overall objective of the proposed Titchfield Group is to develop standardized tools and methods for producing both data disaggregated by age and ageing-related data, and encourage countries to do so, by playing a leading role in the development and communication of new standards and methodologies. Existing issues and deficits in data on ageing will be address thereby.

A3. The specific objectives of the Titchfield Group are:

- To produce and facilitate assessments at global, regional and national levels of the most important existing policy imperatives and statistical requirements and new data sources and statistical measurement gaps
- To promote a common understanding of the core concept of ageing through development of a conceptual framework for ageing-related statistics
- To produce guidelines and case studies on age-related statistics, harmonized standards and standardized methods for collection, processing and analysis of ageing-related data
- To identify and promote good practice for sharing, quality assessment and use of administrative and civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) data related to ageing
- To contribute to the review and analysis of the implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals from the perspective of age-related measures within the framework and time frame set by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators.

A4. The Titchfield Group will develop documentation/a handbook covering data on ageing-related and age- disaggregated data for national statistical offices which will cover the conceptualization, measurement methodology such as compilation of ageing-related data by different means of disaggregation, analytical methods and dissemination of data related to ageing. To that end, the Titchfield Group will carry out:

- Development of a conceptual and analytical framework for ageing-related statistics through a life course approach (including a think piece on autonomy, participation and contribution of older people)
- Development of a mechanism/tool for baseline assessment/inventory and country pilots, covering existing and new data sources, capacity assessment of producers and users, policy imperatives, statistical requirements, statistical measurement gaps, and identification of stakeholders (users) of ageing-related data
- Identification of situations where age caps exist and advocate, where possible, for their removal, including cost benefit analysis of removing age caps
- Development of a platform for sharing information

- Preparing, and promoting with national statistical offices, a set of guidelines covering good practice case studies, guidelines in different settings, methodology for measuring the life course (sampling and non-sampling errors), model questions, editing and imputation techniques, production of prospective statistics on ageing, linking data sets, small-area estimation, awareness of legislative and policy frameworks, accessibility of data, analysis (particularly through a life course approach), dissemination of good practice compendiums, qualitative techniques for enhancing quantitative analysis, and harmonization of standards and definitions related to age

- Sustainable Development Goals framework assessment, contributing to the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators on data disaggregation and ageing-related Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

- Horizon scanning, including working with data users to identify trends in society and upcoming issues that will exert an impact on ageing-related statistics.

A5. The Chair of the Titchfield Group will be assumed by the United Kingdom Office for National Statistics. The Office for National Statistics will serve as secretariat of the group. Its activities will include the development of a communications strategy and a resource mobilization strategy. A steering committee — incorporating the Office for National Statistics, other national statistical offices that are members of the Titchfield Group, representatives of multilateral organizations (the United Nations and perhaps entities other than the United Nations), civil society and academia — will provide strategic direction. The steering committee will operate in a spirit of equal partnership among the members and will remain open so as to welcome additional members from other national statistical offices.

A6. The Titchfield group will carry out its work through:

- Face-to-face meetings with technical sessions (at least once a year) to be hosted by national statistical offices

- Task team meetings and electronic discussion forums on specific themes, with designated group members

- Commissioned documents

- Representation and information-sharing at age-related conferences and proceedings, and at open meetings during sessions of the Statistical Commission and other global or regional gatherings

- The Office for National Statistics in support of the Vice-Chairs will provide substantive and technical leadership towards the formal establishment of the Titchfield Group. The Office, in partnership with the secretariat and the steering committee, will engage in the development of a resource mobilization strategy to secure the financial support needed. Other specialized agencies of the United Nations system as well as outside experts will be invited to provide support in their areas of expertise, where relevant

- Upon the formal establishment of the Titchfield Group, it is proposed that its first meeting be held in Titchfield, United Kingdom, during the first half of 2018. The Group will initially operate for a five-year period, from 2018 to 2023, after which time a review of its substantive work as well as its methods of work will be carried out

- The Titchfield Group will report to the Statistical Commission at its sessions in 2019, 2021 and 2023.